bility of job-seekers, enhancement of productivity, elimination of child labour urgently in hazardous employments and progressively in others and elimination of gender disparities in employment were amongst the important areas identified for such cooperation. The Conference felt that while formulating adjustment measures, the social dimensions of structural adjustment should be carefully analysed keeping in view the particular circumstances of each country and the social partners; and the results of these application closely monitored to minimise social costs and resulting human distress.

Child labour in private hazardous industries

943. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of child labourers and their age group in the hazardous industries in private organisations/industry as on 31st December, 1994; and

(b) what facilities are provided to the child labour by such private organisations under law as a part of the Welfare measure?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The details of the number of child labourers and their age group in the hazardous industries in private organisations/industry is not maintained.

(b) Part III of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 provides for regulation of conditions of employment of children. Section 13 of the said Act provides for making of rules by the appropriate Governments by notification in the Official Gazatte for the health and safety of the children employed or permitted to work in any establishment or class of establishments.

Representation of newspaper employees in the wage boards

944. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have checked up credentials of the National Federation of Newspaper Employees before allotting it one of the two seats earlier allotted to the All India Newspaper Employees Federation on the Wage Boards constituted for Journalists and the newspaper employees in September, 1994;

(b) whether any representations have been received by the Ministry charging it with favouritism in announcing the names of the Wage Boards for non-journalists and utter ignorance of ground realities in the case of the Journalists Wage Board; and

(c) if so, what the inquiry report says about the unions affiliated to the NFNE with addresses, its total membership and whether it is having any representative character still?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 does not prescribe any fixed criteria for selecting representatives of employers' and employees' organisations as members on the Wage Boards. The Government have received representations from several organisations, demanding membership on the Wage Boards. The Government has given due consideration to all the representations received. Decision on selection of

various employers' and employees' organisations was taken based on past precedents and considerations to broad-base the representation of various categories.

Extension of P.F. scheme

945. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Employees Provident Trust has taken decision to extend Provident Fund Scheme to all those establishments and shops which employ ten or more workers;

(b) if so, when this decision was taken and details thereof;

(c) how many more workers will be benefited by this decision in the country, State-wise approximate figures;

(d) how many Employees Provident Fund Offices are there in each State;

(e) what longest distance a worker will have to cover to reach a Provident Fund Office in each State;

(f) whether there is any proopsal to set more PF Offices in each State; if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether Government propose to recruit more employees in PF Offices all over the country and modernise its infrastructures, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (g) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund in its meeting held on 3.2.95 has decided to examine the modalities to extend the provisions of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 to establishments employing 10 or more persons. The Board has not completed its deliberations on the subject. As the proposal is in the embryonic stage, it is difficult to furnish the requisite details.

The new offices are opened and more staff is recruited on the basis of the prescribed norms as and when the need for the same arises. A massive computerisation programme has already been launched in the EPF Organisation for providing improved and speedy services to the subscribers.

As far as possible the EPF offices have been set up keeping in view the concentration of the subscribers in each State. The Region-wise number of EPF Offices are 24 in Andhra Pradesh, 22 in Bihar 4 in Delhi, 17 in Gujarat, 7 in Haryana, 18 in Karnataka, 11 in Kerala, 13 in Madhya Pradesh, 20 in Maharashtra, 9 in NE region, 10 in Orissa, 16 in Punjab, 12 in Rajasthan, 29 in Tamil Nadu, 24 in Uttar Pradesh and 17 in West Bengal.

Survey on employment of child labour in Small Scale Industries

946. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey on employment of child labour in small scale industries like carpet, cracker, leather and handloom industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof Statewise as on 31st December, 1994; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for education, training and welfare of the child labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.